

Message Text

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ORIGIN HUD-02

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DRAFTED BY HUD/SFT: AANDREWS
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R 212100Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS STATE 308210

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USIRJC IR

SUBJECT: HOUSING WORKING GROUP PROGRAM

REF: A) TEHRAN 12403; B) STATE 298738

1. HUD APPRECIATES EMBASSY'S EFFORTS TO GET COMMITMENT FOR SIMONIAN ET AL TO MAKE JANUARY TRIP AND SHARES REGRETS THAT CIRCUMSTANCES PRECLUDE HOLDING LONG-DEFERRED THIRD JOINT MEETING OF WORKING GROUP.

2. FAILURE OF OUR ATTEMPT TO USE MEETING AS TRIGGER FOR GETTING PROGRAM OFF DEAD CENTER LEAVES US WITH PROSPECT OF STALEMATED SITUATION FOR INDEFINITE PERIOD IN HOUSING COMPONENTS PORTION OF PROGRAM (PARA 3, REF B). SIMILARLY, LITTLE FURTHER PROGRESS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PORTION SEEMS POSSIBLE WITHOUT DISCUSSIONS WASHINGTON WITH NEGHBAT. PER PARA 4 REF B HE COULD HANDLE BOTH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND COMPONENTS IDENTIFICATION AND SUPPLIER PORTIONS.

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3. ALTERNATE PROPOSAL: EMBASSY TO SUGGEST GOI SEND ONE MEMBER BELOW MINISTERIAL LEVEL (E.G., NEGHBAT OR APPROPRIATE ALTERNATE) FOR WORKING LEVEL DISCUSSIONS WASHINGTON AND DALLAS ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND COMPONENTS MANUFACTURE ISSUES. WHILE LARGER DELEGATION MIGHT APPEAR UNWARRANTED

IN TERMS OF BENEFITS TO BE GAINED, ONE PERSON VISIT COULD BE HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE IN ADVANCING MAJOR PARTS OF AUGUST PROGRAM.

4. ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE FOR EMBASSY TO OBTAIN IRANIAN SHOPPING LIST OF HOUSING COMPONENTS WHICH WE COULD USE AT NAHB SHOW TO DISCUSS WITH U.S. SUPPLIERS. FOR MOST EFFECTIVE PRESENTATION WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ALL INFORMATION LISTED REF B 3. THIS WOULD LEAVE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PORTION FOR BHRC TO BE HANDLED BY CORRESPONDENCE IF NEGHBAT WOULD REPLY TO ANDREWS LETTER NOVEMBER 1.

5. SEMINAR: BUCK PASSING REPORTED REF A INDICATES THIS PART OF PROGRAM ON DEAD CENTER ALSO. AT AUGUST MEETINGS SIMONIAN ASSIGNED HEDAYATI RESPONSIBILITY FOR SEMINAR. SOME REACTION AT LEAST TO SUGGESTED TOPICS SHOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE BY THIS TIME IF GENUINE INTEREST EXISTS IN HOLDING SEMINAR. WE CAN APPRECIATE NEED FOR MINHOUSING AND OTHER CLEARANCE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL DETAILS.

6. ACTION REQUESTED:

A. EXPLORE PROPOSAL OF VISIT BY NEGHBAT OR SUITABLE ALTERNATE PER 3 ABOVE.

B. FAILING THAT, ADVISE WHETHER EMBASSY CAN OBTAIN INFORMATION TO PERMIT OUR PURSUING PROGRAM AT NAHB SHOW PER 4 ABOVE.

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C. CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR DECISION ON SEMINAR.

D. REVIEW WITH SIMONIAN ENTIRE PROGRAM TO DETERMINE DATES HE SEES AS FEASIBLE TARGETS FOR PROGRESSING ON EACH PHASE OF PROGRAM IN AUGUST PROTOCOL. POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT DEVELOPMENTS WITH MULTIPLE OTHER JOINT COMMISSIONS HAS CHANGED PRIORITIES IN GOI VIEW AS TO BENEFITS TO BE GAINED FROM U.S. PROGRAM VERSUS THOSE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES.

E. EMBASSY SUGGESTIONS ON HOW BEST TO PROCEED BASED ON RESULTS OF FOREGOING DISCUSSIONS. WILL APPRECIATE REPLY BY DECEMBER 30.

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